

claims subsequently were cancelled from the parent. Accordingly, applicants are submitting these claims as new claims 47-50 in the present Rule 53(b) continuation application.

These claims are patentable for the same reasons explained in regard to amended claims 39-42 in applicants' Supplemental Reply Brief in the appeal of the parent application.

In the Preliminary Amendment, applicants also are correcting certain minor oversights present in the specification and drawings, which also were corrected by amendment in the parent case.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 8, 2001

FIG. 17

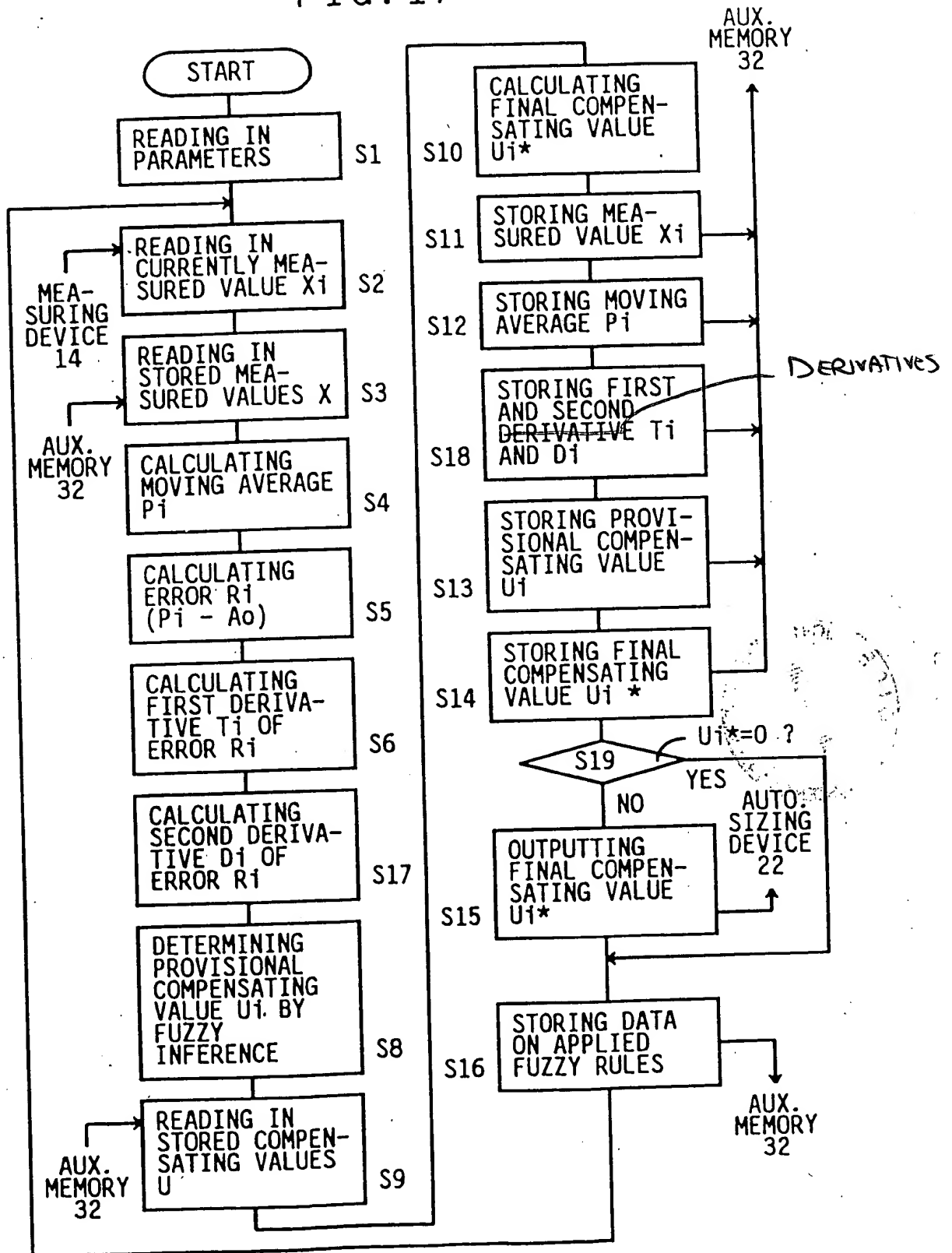


FIG. 34C

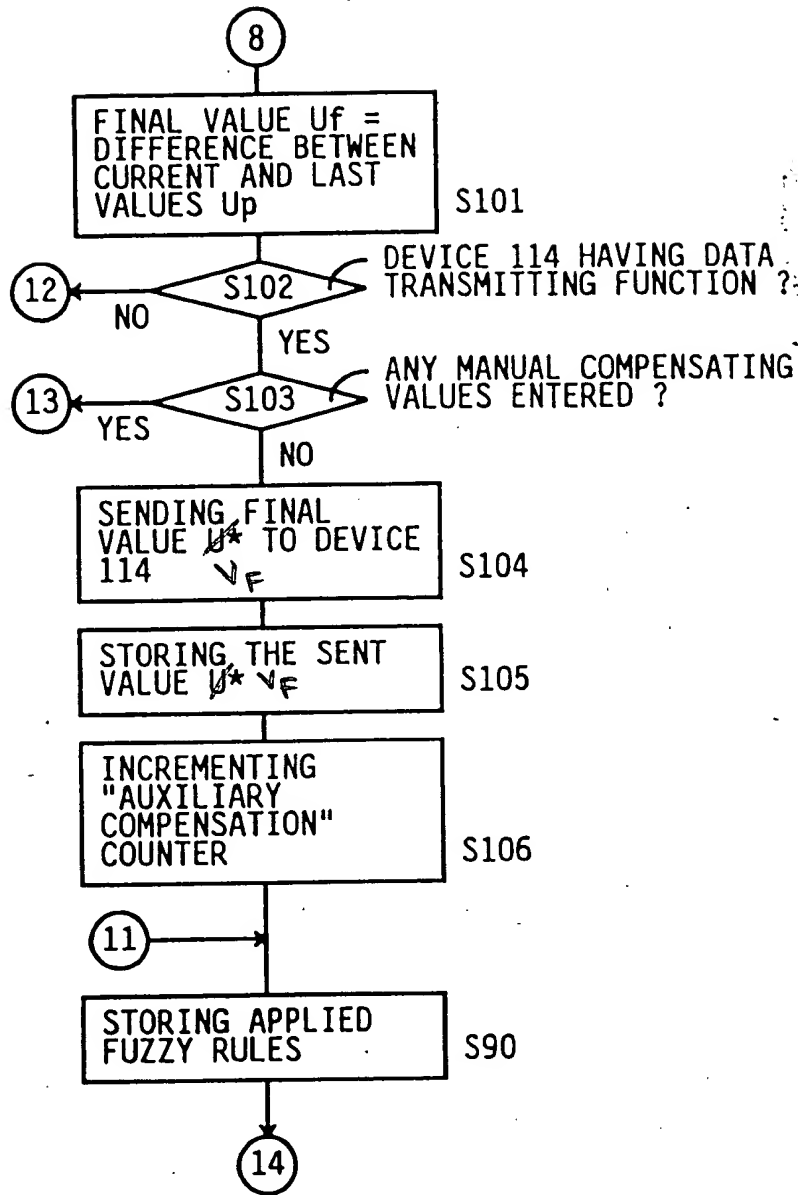


FIG. 36

